



STATE OF ALABAMA **Department of Industrial Relations News For Immediate Release Contact: Ron Macksoud**

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MARSHALL COUNTY ROUNDTABLE TO ADDRESS VITAL EMPLOYER TOPICS

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, August 8, 2006 What can businesses do to prepare for a catastrophe on the scale of Hurricane Katrina? The Governor's Regional Economic Roundtable in Boaz on August 24 will address crisis planning and other timely issues of special interest to employers.

"This Roundtable provides an excellent opportunity to educate employers on a broad range of topics that can help enhance their business operations," says Phyllis Kennedy, Industrial Relations director. "Besides Business Crisis Planning, professional experts from across Alabama will also discuss Employment Law; Reduction of Workers' Compensation Insurance; Managing Health Insurance Costs; Preventing Workplace Identity Theft and Fraud; and Unemployment Insurance Tax Management."

The Marshall County Roundtable is a cooperative effort of Industrial Relations, the Governor's Office, the Marshall County Economic Development Council, the Marshall County Manufacturers Association, the Marshall County Legislative Delegation, and Snead State Community College, Department of Training for Business and Industry.

The Roundtable in Boaz is August 24, 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Bevill Center, Snead State Community College. The Roundtable cost is \$10 per person. For further information, contact Ron Macksoud at 334-242-8616, or Ron.Macksoud@dir.alabama.gov.

Last year, Roundtables were held in Montgomery, Dothan, Huntsville, Florence, Birmingham, Mobile, and Demopolis.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on DIR visit the Web site: www.dir.alabama.gov.